GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:400
ANSWERED ON:09.04.2003
WHO STRATEGY TO CURB DISEASES
V. VETRISELVAN

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether non-communicable Cardiovascular diseases, diabetes, obesity, cancer and respiratory diseases account for 59% of the 56.5 million deaths annually;

(b) whether the WHO has suggested a new strategy to curb these diseases;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the manner in which the Government propose to implement the WHO strategy?

Answer

MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE AND PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SMT. SUSHMA SWARAJ)

(a)to(d): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 400 FOR 9.4.2003

According to World Health Report 2001, the non-communicable diseases account for almost 60% of deaths globally. There is dearth of reliable data regarding the deaths due to non-communicable diseases in India. However, as per the `comprehensive assessment of mortality and disability from diseases, injuries and risk factors` done by WHO & World Bank, the deaths by non-communicable diseases (NCDs) are 51.2% of the total deaths in India.

In the 53rd World Health Assembly in May 2000, WHO`s `Global Strategy for the Prevention and Control of NCDs` was outlined. This strategy emphasizes surveillance to quantify and track NCDs and their determinants, prevention through creation of awareness to bring about life style changes for avoidance of risk factors (Tobacco Use, Unhealthy Diet, Physical Inactivity, etc.) and management of NCDs by provision of cost effective interventions.

The Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) is implementing the National Cancer Registry Programme (NCRP) which provide data pertaining to cancer patients, risk factors/determinants of cancer and other related factors. The ICMR is also implementing Sentinel Health Monitoring Centres in Haryana, Assam, Tamil Nadu, Maharasthra and Kerala for collecting data regarding risk factors of Tobacco & Alcohol use, Diet & Nutrition and Physicial Activities. These interventions are being augmented through an integrated disease surveillance programme as part of the 10th Plan activites in which surveillance of NCDs is an important component.

For creating awareness, the Government is making use of Electronic and Print Media to spread Health Messages to increase public health awareness about NCDs.

The facilities for treatment of various diseases including NCDs are available at Primary Health Centres (PHCs), Community Health Centres (CHCs), District Hospitals, Medical Colleges and various specialized institutions. For Cancer Control, the National Cancer Control Programe is being implemented since 1975.